

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The license distribution management server according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 20, further provided with a purchase certificate database for holding said purchase certificates, wherein:

said license generating means, on the basis of an account settlement completion notice received via the network, register account settlement completion information matched with the purchase certificate into said purchase certificate database.

3. (Original) The license distribution management server according to Claim 2, wherein said account settlement completion information includes at least information concerning the number of times a license can be granted.

4. (Original) The license distribution management server according to Claim 2, wherein said license generating means generate a license when the purchase certificate contained in the license request received via the network is

included in said purchase certificate database and pertinent account settlement completion information is registered.

5. (Currently Amended) The license distribution management server according to Claim 2, further provided with license granting means for distributing said licenses generated by the license generating means to the client terminal, wherein:

said license granting means, when having received a reception notice for said license via the network, delete the purchase certificate matching said license from said purchase certificate database.

6. (Currently Amended) The license distribution management server according to Claim 3, further provided with license granting means for distributing said licenses generated by the license generating means to the client terminal, wherein:

said license granting means, when having received a reception notice for said license via the network, update the number of times said contents are provided.

7. (Currently Amended) The license distribution management server according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 20, wherein said purchase certificate generating means generate a purchase certificate to which an electronic signature by which any

alteration of said purchase certificate can be detected is generated and detects the presence or absence of the alteration on the basis of the electronic signature contained in the reception notice of the purchase certificate returned from a client terminal.

8. (Currently Amended) The license distribution management server according to ~~Claim 1~~ claim 20, wherein said purchase certificate generating means generate a purchase certificate to which an ID for distinguishing each individual purchase certificate is attached, register said ID into said purchase certificate database, collate the ID contained in the reception notice of the purchase certificate returned from the client terminal with said purchase certificate database and, if the ID is found consistent, instruct said license generating means to generate a license.

9. (Original) The license distribution management server according to Claim 2, further provided with generated purchase certificate invalidating means for deleting, out of the purchase certificates stored in said purchase certificate database, those having passed a certain period of time since their generation.

Claims 10-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The storefront server according to ~~Claim 12~~ claim 22, wherein said purchase certificate providing means, when having received the reception notice of said purchase certificate, transmit a request for detection of the presence or absence of alteration of a purchase acknowledging signature contained in the reception notice.

14. (Currently Amended) The storefront server according to ~~Claim 12~~ claim 22, further provided with a purchase certificate ID database for holding IDS for distinguishing said purchase certificate, wherein:

said purchase certificate providing means transmit the purchase certificate, register the ID of said purchase certificate into said purchase certificate ID database, collate an ID of a purchase certificate returned from said client, when it has been received, with said purchase certificate ID database and, if the ID is found consistent, instruct said account settling means to settle the pertinent account.

15. (Currently Amended) The storefront server according to ~~Claim 12~~ claim 22, further provided with a purchase certificate ID database for holding IDS for

distinguishing a purchase certificate container containing one or more purchase certificates, wherein:

said purchase certificate providing means generate and transmit said purchase certificate container, register an ID of said purchase certificate container into said purchase returned from said client, when it has been received, with said purchase certificate ID database and, if the ID is found consistent, instruct said account settling means to settle the pertinent account.

16. (Original) The storefront server according to Claim 14, wherein said purchase certificate providing means, if the ID is found consistent as a result of the collation, delete the pertinent ID from said purchase certificate ID database.

17. (Original) The storefront server according to Claim 15, wherein said purchase certificate providing means, the found consistent as a result of the collation, delete the pertinent ID from said purchase certificate ID database.

18. (Original) The storefront server according to Claim 14, wherein said purchase certificate providing means are provided with a prescribed length of time has passed since the time a purchase certificate was transmitted, delete the pertinent ID from said purchase certificate ID database.

Claim 19. (Canceled)

20. (New) A license distribution management server for distributing licenses for watching and/or listening to encrypted digital contents and transmitting the license to the client terminal, comprising:

purchase certificate generating means for generating a purchase certificate including purchase certificate ID, product ID and contents distribution server URL on the basis of a license purchase request including product ID of digital contents received from a client terminal via a network and transmitting the purchase certificate to the client terminal, and

license generating means for receiving a license request including said purchase certificate from a client terminal via the network, generating a license including the product ID matching said purchase certificate contained in said license request and decryption key for decrypting the encrypted digital contents and transmitting the license to the client terminal.

21. (New) The license distribution management server according to Claim 2, wherein the license distribution management server receives a request of re-registration of the purchase certificate information from a license reissue device

requesting regeneration of the purchase certificates and account settlement information already deleted from said purchase certificate database, and registers said purchase certificate information to said purchase certificate database.

22. (New) The license reissue device according to Claim 21, further provided with an invalidated purchase certificate ID list for registering the purchase certificate ID included in a record as invalid when the record in the purchase certificate database was generated a predetermined hours later than the current day/hour, and when re-registration of the purchase certificate information from a license reissue device is received, whether a purchase certificate information corresponding to the license reissue is registered in the invalidated purchase certificate ID list or not is checked.

23. (New) A storefront server for selling licenses for watching and/or listening to encrypted digital contents, comprising:

product information transmitting means for transmitting a product list including product ID of the digital contents,

purchase certificate providing means for transmitting a purchase certificate including a purchase

certificate ID, product ID and contents distribution server URL to a client terminal having sent a pertinent purchase request including the product ID and credit card information based on the product list, and

account settling means for settling accounts of license trading based on account settlement information generated from the purchase request sent from the client terminal, wherein:

said purchase certificate providing means, when having received a reception notice of a purchase certificate from said client terminal, instruct said account settling means to settle a pertinent account, and

said account settling means, when the account settlement has been finished, sends account settlement completion notice to an outward license distribution management server via a network.

24. (New) A client terminal for receiving licenses for watching and/or listening to encrypted digital contents from an outward license distribution management server via a network, which:

receives a product list including product ID of the digital contents via the network,

transmits a purchase request including the product ID and credit card information based on the product list,

receives a purchase certificate including a purchase certificate ID, product ID and contents distribution server URL from the license distribution management server and holds the purchase certificate,

transmits a license request including the purchase certificate to the license distribution management server and receives a license including the product ID matching said purchase certificate and decryption key for decrypting the encrypted digital contents, after an account settlement has been performed based on the purchase certificate by an account settling means.